UNITED NATIONS **A**

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/53/60
26 January 1998

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Fifty-third session

SUPPORT BY THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM OF THE EFFORTS OF GOVERNMENTS TO PROMOTE AND CONSOLIDATE NEW OR RESTORED DEMOCRACIES

THE MAINTENANCE OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY - PREVENTION OF THE VIOLENT DISINTEGRATION OF STATES

MACROECONOMIC POLICY QUESTIONS

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION

Letter dated 26 January 1998 from the Permanent Representatives of Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

We have the honour to transmit herewith the joint statement by the President of Turkmenistan, Mr. Saparmurat Niyazov, and the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Mr. Nursultan Nazarbaev, made on 6 January 1998 in Ashgabat.

We should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly.

(Signed) Aksoltan ATAEVA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
of Turkmenistan
to the United Nations

(Signed) Akmaral Kh. ARYSTANBEKOVA
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Annex

[Original: Russian]

Joint statement by the Heads of State of Turkmenistan and Kazakhstan, made on 6 January 1998 in Ashgabat

The Presidents of Turkmenistan and Kazakhstan held a bilateral meeting during which they had a frank and constructive dialogue on a wide range of issues relating to the foreign and domestic policies of the two States, as well as on the development and strengthening of mutually advantageous economic ties and cooperation between their States.

The sides informed each other of the current state of their national economies and the prospects for economic development, and expressed their common position that, with their enormous raw materials potential and as two of the world's leaders in natural resources, they were keenly interested in the effective use of natural resources on a priority basis for the benefit of the peoples of Turkmenistan and Kazakhstan.

The sides expressed the need to consolidate their efforts to ensure the two States' more dynamic and broader access to the international oil and gas market.

The sides intend to cooperate and make active and targeted use of the two States' existing economic potential to develop jointly and expand exports of hydrocarbons and their by-products.

Stressing their common interest in cooperating in the delivery of their exports to world markets, the sides intend to step up their participation in the development and implementation of joint multilateral and international projects to build pipelines for the transit and export of oil and gas, including the laying of such pipelines across the Central Asian countries and the Caspian Sea to the Mediterranean and Europe.

The sides have a common position and the same intentions with regard to the numerous opportunities for developing the two States' export potential. They believe that such an approach is fully in keeping with their strategic objectives, and will ensure that each country takes its proper place in the system of international economic relations and will strengthen their national economies.